## Severe Weather February 2022 Recovery Plan

Approved by Moreton Recovery Group and endorsed by Moreton Bay Regional Council

### About our community

The Moreton Bay Region is a diverse area, spanning more than 2,045 square kilometres which includes rural townships and urban centres to coastal villages and thriving business precincts.

Located between Brisbane City and the Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay is one of Australia's fastest growing urban regions. The population as of 2021 was 486,6451. Moreton Bay has a strong and connected community that enjoys the benefits of proximity to the Brisbane CBD. The region offers pristine environmental areas, vibrant entertainment options and thriving cultural and community hubs.

### About the event

The Moreton Bay Region experienced a significant amount of rain during the period of 22 February to 7 March 2022. A slow-moving upper low pushed into South East Queensland during the 23 and 24 February. On 25 February, many locations within the region recorded between 65% and 75% of their average annual rainfall within 3 to 4 days.

The following table provides an understanding of some of the actions that took place on the immediate lead up to and following the disaster.

EVENT Timeline						
Monday 21/2 <11mm	Tuesday 22/2 Up to 120mm actual rainfall	Wednesday 23/2 Up to 64mm actual rainfall	Thursday 24/2 Up to 212mm actual rainfall	Friday 25/2 Up to 734mm actual rainfall	Saturday 26/2 Up to 478mm actual rainfall	Sunday 27/2 Up to 444mm actual rainfall
LDMG Status:	ALERT	LEAN FORWARD		STAND-UP		
BAU	Local Disaster Coordination Centre (LDCC) 'Lean Forward' First Situation Report (SITREP) issued Sand Stations OPEN 1 x MoretonAlert (MA) issued	Flood Information Centre (FIC) moved to Level 4 MBRC Operations 24/7 activation QFES Brisbane Region Severe Weather Preparedness Level 3 Evacuation Centres ready with staff pre-positioned Riding for the Disabled Cartmill horses moved Qld State Equestrian Centre North Pine Dam releases commenced 2 x MAs issued 20 x council road closures	1 x MA issued 55 x council road closures	LDCC 'Stand-up' 58 x MAs issued 4 x Emergency Alerts (EA) issued: LBA 530,208 - Location based text message to mobile 145 x council road closures 13 x State roads at threat or closed (contra-flow Bruce and Bald Hills Flat)	DDMG 'Stand-up' Counter Disaster Operations (CDO) activated 72 x MAs issued 10 x EAs issued: IBA 573.786 - Location based text message to mobile. IBM 434,365 - Service address based text message to mobile North Pine Dam release peaked at approx. 1500 m3/s 206 x council road closures (all major State roads cut until Mon)	73 x MAs issued: LBA 2 x EAs issued: LBA 3,909 - Location based text missage to mobile. LBN 3,232 - Service addition. 4,232 - Service addition. 4,232 - Service addition. 5,232 - Service addition. 5,23
Monday 28/2 Up to 17mm actual rainfall	Tuesday 1/3  Omm actual rainfall	Wednesday 2/3 Up to 81mm actual rainfall	Thursday 3/3 Up to 45mm actual rainfall	Friday 4/3 Up to 12mm actual rainfall	Saturday 5/3 <2mm actual rainfall	Sunday 6/3 Up to 33mm actual rainfall
	ALERT					
Moreton Recovery Group (MRG) & sub- groups moved to 'Stand- up' Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme (PHAS) activated QFES/MBRC Damage Assessments begin 1 x EA issued (White Patch): LBA 5,803 - Location based text message to mobile 1 x MA issued 201 x council road closures	LDMG moved back to 'Alert' Skip bin services commenced (ongoing till end of April) FIC moved to Level 2 81 x council road closures	Residents able to register for Moreton Army assistance White Patch water restored (AM) 1 x MA issued 48 x council road closures	Recovery hubs 'opened' (then closed) White Patch crossing restored (PM) Premier closes schools, volunteer support halted MA for Moreton Army distributed 11 x MAs issued 69 x council road closures	Last Evacuation Centre closed ADF assistance discussed 72 x council road closures	Moreton Army activated (concluded 12/3) 36 x council road closures	ADF support clean-up RDA Cartmill North Pine Dam still spilling 1 x MA issued 17 x council road closures

### Moreton Recovery Group (MRG)

Chair - Councillor Matt Constance.

Moreton Recovery Coordinator - Council's Director Community and Environmental Services, Mr Bill Halpin.

### Membership:

- Moreton Bay Regional Council
- Department Communities, Housing & Digital Economy
- Department Environment & Science
- Department State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government & Planning
- Department Transport & Main Roads
- Queensland Fire & Emergency Services
- Queensland Police Service
- Queensland Reconstruction Authority

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### Recovery Sub-Groups

The MRG activated its four recovery sub-groups comprising economic, environment (natural and public health), human-social and infrastructure (build environment, roads and transport) to coordinate the recovery efforts.

The Human and Social Recovery Sub-Group activated the Human and Social Advisory and Intelligence Group to assist in identifying impacts and strategies to support the community. Members of this group assist in 'groundtruthing' the issues of the region particularly from vulnerable community groups.

### **Activations:**

RECOVERY NARRATIVE

DAMAGE IMPACTS

The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) was 'stood up' on 25 February 2022 and the District Disaster Management Group (DDMG) moved to stand-up level on 26 February 2022. The LDMG reverted to 'alert' level on 1 March 2022 and both the LDMG and DDMG stood-down on 6 April 2022.

The MRG and Recovery Sub-Groups were stood up on 28 February 2022.

### Response, Relief, Recovery, Resilience objectives and timeframes:

Phase	Timeframe	Objective	
Response	22 February to 28 February	Ensure community safety and meet immediate support needs	
Post-impact relief and emergency repairs	3 months 28 February to 28 May	Ensure the ongoing support needs and well- being of the community is addressed	
Re-establishment, rehabilitation and reconstruction	3 to 6 months 28 May to 28 August	Initiation of recovery efforts	
Restoration, rebuilding, reshaping and sustainability	6 months from 28 August	Delivery of longer-term recovery efforts	
Resilience	Ongoing	Embed learnings to ensure the region is better prepared for future disaster impacts	

### Damage assessments and impacts

#### Damage assessments

Damage Assessments were conducted by Council's and the QFES' damage assessment teams.

- MBRC damage assessments 302
- QFES damage assessments 973

#### **Impacts**

Impacts to the region included:

- Loss of mobile coverage to 65 x 3G, 62 x 4G and 48 x 5G mobile base stations across 94 physical sites
- Loss of power to over 4915 residences
- Closure of numerous major roads including Bruce and D'Aguilar Highways
- Closure of 224 Council roads at peak of event
- There were 217 people in the Evacuation Centres at the peak of the event
- Loss of causeway resulting in isolation of White Patch community
- SES attendance at 942 properties for flooding, structural damage and trees down
- MBRC Call Centre and Oracle outbound welfare checks 1591
- Impacts to 110 sport and recreation and community facilities
- Economic impacts including operation of business, loss of employees, damage to premises, damaged equipment and damaged or perished stock
- Social impacts including mental, emotional and physical issues associated with the event
- Lack of basic needs, physical displacement, psychosocial issues, financial stress and health risks
- Water quality issues (debris/pollution and +40,000 fish kills) across local systems

A visual representation of damage and impact assessments is provided at the end of this report (refer illustration

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ABS ERP 2021

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### **Recovery Objectives**

#### **Economic**

- Conduct business and industry impact assessment across the region to identify impacts and issues
- Inform the business community of all the support options available and how they are accessed
- Provide immediate financial relief through available government and industry means
- Understanding ongoing impacts of the disaster and sharing knowledge within the business sector to aid recovery
- Develop an intergovernmental advocacy response highlighting the issues of insurance experienced by businesses during this disaster recovery process

#### **Environment**

- Ensure provision of safe water (drinking water, waterways)
- Investigate disease, public health and safety risks associated with the event
- Ensure sewerage treatment plants are operational
- Assess environmental impacts to high-risk businesses
- Investigate impacts and identify possible treatment options for damaged green environment, natural amenities, natural values and fish/aquatic ecosystems
- · Ensure management of domestic animals, livestock and wildlife

### **Human and Social**

- Develop and implement measures that enable the immediate identification of human and social impacts on residents and community organisations
- Provide immediate financial relief to impacted residents and community organisations
- Establish new and expand existing community support services to meet the immediate needs of impacted families and individuals. Services may include, but not be limited to: housing; emergency food/essential items; mental and physical health; replacement of donated goods; and in-home support
- Establish new and coordinate existing service connection points and referral pathways to assist impacted residents to connect with available supports services and resources
- Ensure that the region-wide promotion of available support services is: effective in reaching impacted
  residents and community organisations; tailored to meet the needs of vulnerable communities; and
  coordinated across human and social agencies.

### Infrastructure

- Restoration of essential infrastructure:
  - Energy supply/alleviate future supply issues
  - Water supply
  - Causeway/culvert
  - o Bridges
  - Landslips/washouts
  - > Roads
  - Fencing/rails/gates
  - Drainage failure
  - o Wall failure
- Restoration of community recreational facilities:
  - o Parks and gardens
  - Sporting grounds and other related facilities
- Restoration of council assets:
  - o Fleet services
  - Buildings and facilities

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Moreton Recovery Coordinator Bill Halpin





### **Recovery Actions**

Action Plans have been developed for each Recovery Sub-Groups. As at 1 April 2022 the sub-groups were working on 242 actions. An overview of the actions is provided below. Please note: these actions are changing regularly depending on the needs of our community.

### Economic (33 actions)

- Business survey to understand impacts including loss of employment
- MBRC Small Business Disaster Recovery Forum
- Sharing of national flood business impact reports
- Sharing mental health and wellbeing resources
- Grant, loans and business relief funding opportunities
- Identify supply chain issues and potential solutions
- Geographically map impacted business premises and the industries operating within the affected area
- Developed business preparedness and 'Flood Smart Guideline'
- Developing and promoting programs to aid recovery and build resilience
- · Reviewing regional 'Build Back Better' opportunities
- Developing a 'gift card' program to support local spending within the region

### **Environment** (19 actions)

- Water sampling, safe recreational use of waterways and messaging
- Mosquito management operations including South East Queensland Mosquito Taskforce
- · Waste management
- Public safety at parks, sporting fields and like facilities
- Onsite sewerage treatment plant safety messaging
- Industrial estate assessments and associated public health concerns
- Impacts to waterbodies including fish kill response and rehabilitation
- Assessment of high value natural areas and planning for rehabilitation
- Animal management including identifying impacts to RSPCA, Riding for the Disabled and livestock
- Public health advice and assistance to business owners
- Ongoing public health messaging e.g. mould and clean-up safety
- Advice and assistance to land owners that have been impacted from an environmental perspective e.g. sediment and erosion control
- Liaison with Natural Resource Management Groups e.g. Healthy Land and Water regarding regional waterway clean-up activities

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### Human & Social (28 actions)

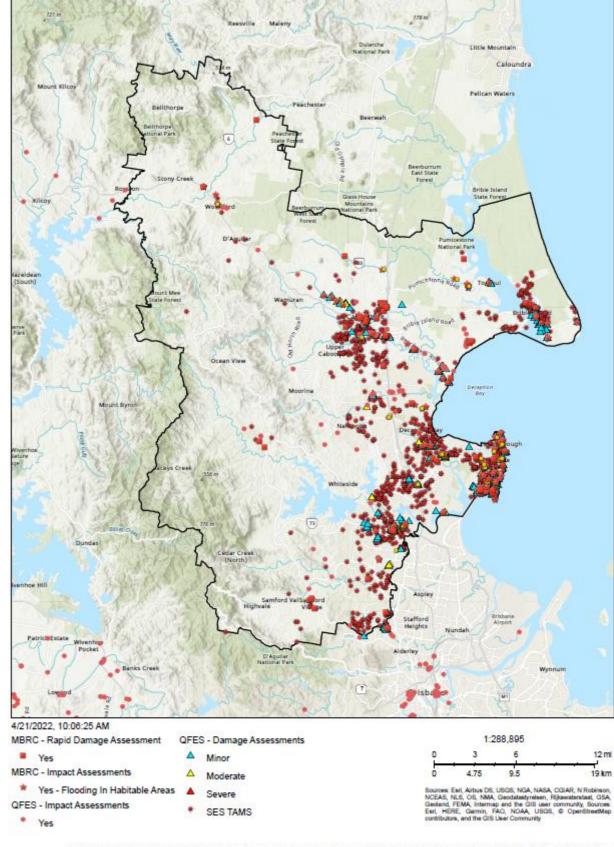
- · Analysis and mapping damage assessments
- Deployment of Moreton Army to coordinate spontaneous volunteers
- Establishment of recovery hubs and outreach teams
- Establishment of Community Recovery Hotline
- · Outbound call campaign to community organisations to ascertain impacts and recovery needs
- Establish financial assistance including:
  - Moreton Bay Recovery Fund
  - o Provision of rates relief in the form of targeted rebates and extended due date
  - o Australian Government disaster recovery payment
  - o Emergency Hardship Assistance Grant
  - o Essential Services Hardship Assistance Grant
  - o Essential Household Contents Grant
  - o Structural Assistance Grant
  - o Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Grant
  - o Vouchers and gift cards for community organisations
  - o Bereavement grants and relief grants
- Activation of the Emergency Housing Assistance Requests (EHAR) process
- Activations of donations and offers of assistance
- Provision of psychosocial support
- Support for vulnerable residents
- Development and implementation of case management and referral pathways

#### Infrastructure (162 actions)

- By 7 April provided 785 skip bins to assist residents in the clean-up
- Repair energy supplies
- Repair Bribie Island and Beachmere water supply
- Repair causeway and culverts with major repairs at White Patch and Laceys Creek
- Repair bridges with major repairs at Albany Creek, Bunya, White Patch and Strathpine
- Repair landslips/washouts in 39 locations with major landslips at the Goat Track, Sandstone Point, Banksia Beach, Bunya and Albany Creek
- Repair of roads in 47 locations
- Fleet assets repair
- Building and facilities repair
  - o Riding for the Disabled
  - o Centenary Lakes Complex
- Repair of parks, gardens, sportsgrounds in 38 locations including major repairs at Centenary Lakes and Pine Rivers Park
- Repairs to Redcliffe Aerodrome runway and taxi-ways
- · Extensive clean-up works at Bribie Island and Redcliffe foreshores

Illustration #1 - Damage and impact assessments undertaken:

## Moreton Bay Region Damage and Impact Assessments



Esti, Geoscience Australia, NASA, NGA, USOS | Moreton Bay Regional Council, Department of Resources, Dept of Environment and Science, Esri, HERE, Garmin, METINASA, USOS | MSRC2022